

ENGLAND'S REPLY TO PROTEST NOTE IS MADE PUBLIC

Preliminary Answer Concedes Many of America's Contentions.

POINTS TO DIFFICULTIES
IN ACTUAL PRACTICE

Promises Redress Whenever Action Exceeds Limits of International Law.

OFFICIALS ARE WELL PLEASED

Tone Entirely Friendly, and Further Discussion Expected to Be in Same Vein.

WASHINGTON, January 10.—Great Britain's preliminary reply to the protest of the United States against interruption of American commerce by the British fleet was made public here and in London to-night by mutual agreement between the State Department and the British Foreign Office.

The British note concurs in the view of the United States that commerce between neutral nations should be interfered with only when absolutely necessary, and officials here construed it as conceding that the principles expressed by the American protest were just.

The only formal comment was this statement, issued by Secretary Bryan: "This answer being preliminary and not being intended as a complete reply, we will postpone comment until the full answer is received."

CONCEDES PRINCIPLES
OF U. S. CONTENTIONS

Briefly the British reply, while conceding the principles on which the American contentions are based, points out difficulties in actual practice, refers to alleged fraudulent practices by shippers, and cites statistics showing an increase, rather than a decline, in certain neutral commerce. In support of Great Britain's suspicions that Germany and Austria have been indirectly obtaining contraband through neutral countries.

The note promises, however, that Great Britain will make redress whenever the action of the British fleet may unintentionally exceed the limits of international law.

Though officials were reserved in their comment, it was said authoritatively to-night that they regard the tone of the note as entirely friendly, and believe that further discussion, which will follow it, will be carried on in the same vein.

Admission by Great Britain of one of the chief points in the American note, that the relations between neutrals were those of normal times of peace and not of war, was gratifying to officials, who believed the controversy now would resolve itself into a frank discussion of what were the actual necessities which impel interference by a belligerent when suspecting that the ultimate destination of a neutral cargo is belligerent territory.

STATISTICS REGARDING
AS MISLEADING

Statistics pointed to show that American commerce with neutral countries contiguous to Germany and Austria had increased materially since the outbreak of the war were regarded here as misleading. It was pointed out that in view of the breaking down of normal trade routes, many noncontraband products had been shipped through neutral countries.

As to the increase in shipments of copper to Italy, mentioned in the reply, it was pointed out that the Italian ambassador here already had explained that Italy, which previously had obtained copper from Germany and Austria, now was forced to import from the United States, because of the embargo on exportation which the belligerents themselves had imposed. The American government contends, moreover, that if copper has reached belligerents through neutral countries, it is the duty of the British to make more effective arrangements with those neutral countries.

Great Britain's admission that as to foodstuffs and conditional contraband, Lord Salisbury's doctrine quoted in the American note would be followed by the British, and that foodstuffs would be held up only when destined to an enemy, also was pleasing to American officials.

WILL NOT ACCEPT
CERTAIN OF VIEWS

There is every reason to believe that the United States will not accept Great Britain's view that "arguably must be taken into port for extended examination." While the statistics cited show that only forty-five cargoes out of 773 actually have been taken into port courts, officials here note that no mention is made in the British note of the great number of American cargoes detained and subsequently released. It was not the loss already suffered by American commerce which brought forth the American protest, but the desire to prevent future mistreatment. The United States also laid stress on the effect which the detentions already made had on shippers, who hesitated to export cargoes on account of hazards involved, and what was termed the indecision of the British authorities in applying their own rules.

Officials regarded as novel the argument of Great Britain that it could not give unlimited adherence to the rule with respect to conditional contraband destined for belligerents, because Britain's enemies had departed "from hitherto accepted rules of civilization and humanity." It was suggested American commerce should not be forced to suffer because of circumstances over which the American people could have no possible control.

As a whole, the British note was received with satisfaction.

CATHOLICS PLAN TO FIGHT

Inquiry Into Alleged Movement to Drive Them Out of Public Life.

NEW YORK, January 10.—Investigation of an alleged movement by the anti-Catholic societies and publications to drive Catholics out of public life has been undertaken by the Commission on Religious Prejudice, authorized by the supreme council of the Knights of Columbus. It was announced to-night by the Rev. J. J. Wynne, editor of the Catholic Encyclopedia. An appropriation of \$50,000 has been made for the inquiry.

At the conclusion of its present meeting in this city, the commission will prepare for a session in Chicago on March 6, to be followed by meetings in other large cities. Criminal prosecution has already been ordered by the Department of Justice against one widely-circulated anti-Catholic publication. It was announced, and others will follow. It also was said the commission would oppose vigorously the stand taken by the Postmaster-General in his report, published in December, regarding the use of the mails by such publications. Colonel P. H. Callahan, of Louisville, Ky., is chairman of the commission.

FIGHT ON BREAD TRUST

Attorney-General of Missouri Will Bring Suit To-Day.

JEFFERSON CITY, MO., January 10.—Suits to oust from Missouri an alleged combination to control St. Louis bread prices will be filed to-morrow by Attorney-General Barker, he announced to-night. The suit will be directed against one company which, it is charged, formed a pool and trust agreement with seven others. The Attorney-General will charge that, while these companies have filed dissolution papers, they maintain the same plants and conduct business with the same officers as before a previous dissolution; that the size of loaves was reduced from sixteen ounces to thirteen ounces, under the alleged agreement, and that the combination controls sale of 75 per cent of the bread sold in St. Louis.

PAGEANT AT NEW ORLEANS

Represents Return of Jackson and Troops From Chalmette Battlefield.

NEW ORLEANS, January 10.—A ceremonial pageant representing the return of General Andrew Jackson and his troops from the battlefield at Chalmette and the "Crowning of Old Hickory" on the identical spot where Jackson was received 100 years ago, was one of the features to-day here of the last of the three days' celebration of the 100th anniversary of the battle of New Orleans and of peace between Great Britain and the United States. Following the pageant, a deum and pontifical high mass in St. Louis Cathedral took place, duplicating the thanksgiving service rendered after the triumphal return to the city of Jackson and his men from their victory over the British.

HUNDREDS FACE STARVATION

Religious Workers in Holy Land Are in Serious Plight.

WASHINGTON, January 10.—Hundreds of religious workers in the Holy Land are facing starvation, according to reports received to-day by the Rev. Geoffrey Schilling, of the Franciscan Order, commissary general for the Holy Land in the United States. The reports declare the Turks have turned the Franciscans out of nearly all of their convents in Armenia, Upper Syria and Galilee, leaving them in possession, however, of their convent of St. Saviour, in Jerusalem, and the convent of the Annunciation at Nazareth. In response to early reports of the matter, the State Department, through the State Department, thus far, however, arrangements for the care of the sufferers have been unavailing.

SEES HUSBAND ON FILM

Belgian Woman Refugee Recognizes Him in Trench.

[Correspondence of Associated Press.] LIVERPOOL, December 29.—During a moving picture show here a Belgian woman refugee recognized her husband in a film depicting scenes in the Belgian trenches. The husband appeared in the picture to be in the best of health and spirits. As they had been separated early in the war, and the address of each was unknown to the other, the woman tried frantically to obtain information from the theatre, and even wrote to the film agent. But the name of the place where the husband was seen had been deleted by the censor.

The film company, however, promised to try to trace the matter through the camera operator.

AERONAUT FALLS TO DEATH

Drops 2,000 Feet When Parachute of Balloon Fails to Open.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., January 10.—George Taylor, of Philadelphia, an aeronaut fell 2,000 feet and was instantly killed near here to-day, when the parachute of his balloon failed to open while he was giving an exhibition. Several thousand persons witnessed the accident. The body struck earth in a cemetery within 100 feet of where the body of Richard Frayne, another aeronaut, was found two years ago, after he had been dashed to death in an accident similar to the one of to-day.

FAVORS INCREASE OF ARMY

Garrison Indorses Chamberlain Bill Raising Strength to 100,000 Men.

WASHINGTON, January 10.—Secretary Garrison in a letter to Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the Senate Military Committee, made public to-night indorses Senator Chamberlain's bill for increase of the regular army to 100,000 enlisted men. Mr. Garrison points out that the increase sought, while leaving the forces in continental United States still "very small," would afford peace training for officers with such units as they would be called upon to direct in time of war.

WANT CITY TO OWN PUBLIC UTILITIES

Workingmen Call Upon Council to Reject Franchise Application in Its Entirety.

EX-CONGRESSMAN TO SPEAK

A. M. Todd, of Michigan, Will Address Mass-Meeting Wednesday Night.

Following a publicity campaign carried on through the medium of public meetings for the past several weeks, the Workingmen's Protective Association, at a meeting in the Labor Temple yesterday afternoon, adopted resolutions declaring openly and without compromise for municipal ownership of all street railway and light and power utilities in this city.

Richmond labor organizations had before this registered their opposition to the form of franchise asked for by the Virginia Railway and Power Company. Objections to the thirty-year life and other features of the grant suggested by the power company have been raised also by quasi-political organizations in the East End and on the Southside. The resolutions adopted yesterday by the workingmen, however, are the first to oppose any form of franchise and to declare in its broadest form for municipal ownership.

WANT CITY TO CONDUCT
LIGHT AND POWER PLANT

A note sounded in no other resolutions that have so far been adopted, favors the immediate purchase of the light and power utilities owned in this city by the Virginia Railway and Power Company, at their present estimated physical valuation, and the increasing of the capacity of the municipal plant to an excess of 25 per cent over the present demand.

Speeches were made by Joseph W. Stewart, James E. Dickerson, John Hirschberg, E. C. Davidson, H. T. Colvin, Jesse Duke and C. K. Kelly. Mr. Hirschberg confined his talk to neutral matters, urging the workingmen to qualify themselves to vote, in order that they may be in a position better to enforce their needs. He did not discuss the franchise application.

The body voted to hold a mass-meeting either in the City Auditorium or in the auditorium of the John Marshall High School on Wednesday evening. The feature of the meeting will be an address by former Congressman A. M. Todd, of Michigan, on "Municipal Ownership of Street Railways." The lecture will be illustrated by stereopticon slides.

Mr. Davidson told the meeting that Mr. Todd has made an exhaustive study of municipal traction utilities in Europe, and is a recognized expert. The speaker will come to Richmond under the auspices of the National Popular Government League. Mr. Todd is at present in Washington, and arrangements for the lecture were made last night by long distance telephone.

MAY BRING SENATOR OWEN
HERE FOR ADDRESS

A meeting scheduled for Friday night in Fulton hall, ordered canceled as soon as arrangements were made for the address by Mr. Todd. The association took under consideration a plan to bring to Richmond at an early date, for addresses on the franchise and municipal ownership questions, Congressman Cresser, of Ohio, and Senator Owen, of Oklahoma. Both of them, according to Mr. Davidson, have promised to speak in Richmond at any convenient date.

Jesse Duke, who is secretary of the State Socialist organization, told the meeting that he was prepared to prove in any court of law that the Virginia Railway and Power Company is at present supplying a corporation with electric current at the rate of 1 cent a kilowatt hour. The residence and individual consumption rate is 10 cents, less 10 per cent discount for payment within ten days.

The resolutions adopted by the Workingmen's Protective Association were prepared by a committee composed of R. B. Greenway, president of that body, who presided at yesterday's meeting; N. W. Sheppard, H. B. Faircloth and J. R. Colvin. They were adopted unanimously.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP
CHARGED APTLY SUMMARIZED

The document is prefaced by a preamble which summarizes aptly and with considerable point the municipal ownership creed. It reads:

"The people of our city have been very slow to appreciate the value of public franchises. The shrewd capitalist has, on the other hand, been quick to note the growing values and future possibilities of such franchises. He has been on the alert to get the aid of politicians to secure privileges which belong to the general public. "The city being the condensation of ages, city government is the problem of the future; it is the problem of civilization as well as the remaining remnants of barbarism. It comes in contact with our daily lives a dozen times, while the State or national government touches us once."

"The problem of the city is the problem of the future; it is the problem of civilization—diffusion of wealth and power, intelligence, culture and science. Instead of this, we have private monopoly of wealth, private monopoly of government, private monopoly of education, private monopoly even of morality and the conditions of its production. Combination, integration, union are most excellent if their benefits are justly distributed. Integration plus diffusion or union for the good of all is the problem of the twentieth century."

TEXT OF RESOLUTIONS
ADOPTED BY WORKINGMEN

"Whereas, the Virginia Railway and Power Company, operating the street railway lines, as well as being the sole dispenser of electric light and

REPLY TO AMERICAN NOTE SUBJECT MOST DISCUSSED



Distributing Rations at a German Commissary Station.

The Kaiser recently issued an order that the same bread which was eaten by his men in the field should also be served at his own table. Some members of the commissary department are here seen distributing daily's rations in bread, coffee, sugar and vegetables. Each company has its own mess and kitchen. It is the belief of the Kaiser that in order for his men to keep rugged and well they should have only the plainest rations, and he extends this rule to apply likewise to himself and the men on his staff.

WILL ATTEMPT TO HASTEN LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Administration Leaders Apprehensive About Completing Work Before March 4.

FIGHT ON SHIP-PURCHASE BILL

Democrats, Charging That Republican Tactics Have Assumed Form of Filibuster, Threaten to Demand Night Sessions.

WASHINGTON, January 10.—Administration leaders, growing apprehensive about completion of President Wilson's legislative program before March 4, will exert every possible effort during the coming week to make progress.

Republican Senate leaders have concentrated their obstructive forces on the government ship-purchase bill, the discussion of which they are determined to prolong as much as possible. They already have succeeded in delaying consideration of the bill three days. The District of Columbia appropriation bill next must be disposed of, but Democratic leaders believe a vote on it can be forced to-morrow, and that the ship bill can then be pressed for general debate throughout most of the week.

Democratic leaders charge that Republican tactics have assumed the form of a filibuster, and are threatening to demand night sessions. In that event, the Republicans declare it would be easy to break a quorum and thus add to the delays of legislation.

PHILIPPINE BILL STILL
UNDER CONSIDERATION

The Philippine bill is still under consideration in committee, and to-morrow Secretary Garrison will present to the committee his views on the proposal to enlarge Philippine self-government.

The House on Tuesday will vote on Representative Mondell's resolution for submission of a suffrage amendment. House leaders are planning for another stirring day of oratory such as characterized the prohibition debate two weeks ago.

Military preparedness will continue a prominent subject in both houses, with the naval and military appropriation bills in the House and administration bills to increase the strength of the army before the Senate Military Committee.

Both houses will have before them to-morrow the conference report on the Immigration bill retaining the literacy test, but with amendments to exclude Africans and to exempt Belgian farmers from the literacy test stricken out.

Democratic leaders declare the conference report will be adopted. What the President will do with the bill, in view of his objection to the literacy test, is a source of conflicting opinion.

FIRE RUINS PEACOCK INN

One of Princeton's Quaintest Hostleries Damaged by Flames.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] PRINCETON, N. J., January 10.—Peacock Inn, one of Princeton's quaintest and most fashionable hostleries, was ruined by fire to-day. The loss is estimated at \$10,000.

Several invalid guests were brought down by ladder from the upper floors. The inn was at one time the residence of President Wilson.

DEATH OF THOMAS DERMOT

Was Father of Lady Forbes-Robertson and Maxine Elliott.

OAKLAND, CAL., January 10.—Thomas Dermot, father of Lady Gertrude Forbes-Robertson and Maxine Elliott, died of paralysis here to-day. He was seventy-eight years old.

WOMEN IN MASS-MEETING CALL FOR END OF WAR

Platform Based on Right of Divine Motherhood to Prevent Violation of Life.

SCENE IS MOST REMARKABLE

Peace Preamble Hailed by Many as Declaration of Women's Independence—Convention of Neutral Nations Asked.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] WASHINGTON, January 10.—While men and women sobbed and wept in an agony of spirit that was an echo of Europe's present woe, and hundreds struggled in a seething mass to get within earshot of the speakers, the huge mass-meeting of the woman's movement for constructive peace called on womanhood to end all war, on a platform and preamble based on woman's right of divine motherhood to prevent violation of life.

It was one of the most remarkable scenes ever witnessed in the national capital. For hours before the meeting, official women, society leaders, home women, suffragists and all kinds and conditions of women waited for the doors of the big ballroom of the New Willard to open. The rush that followed resembled a panic. Still the women came, until the hotel authorities could no longer convey them to the tenth floor on the packed elevators. The peace advocates were not daunted, however, and a striking procession of women, many in silk and velvet gowns fresh from fashionable teas and functions, tolled up the ten flights of stairs. In the crush many gowns were torn and injured, and one woman had the train of her imported velvet gown torn off completely, while another lost the sleeves of her waist.

RAILED AS DECLARATION
OF WOMEN'S INDEPENDENCE

The peace preamble was hailed by many women present as a declaration of women's independence. It made the demand on the ground that women "are the custodians of the life of the ages. We will no longer consent to its reckless destruction. Planned for legalized, wholesale, human slaughter it is today the sum of all villainies," it declared.

"Therefore, as the mother half of humanity, we demand," concludes the preamble, "that our right to be considered in the settlement of questions concerning not alone the life of individuals, but of nations, be recognized and respected."

"We demand that women be given a share in deciding between war and peace in all the courts of high debate: within the home, the school, the church, the industrial order, and the state."

MANY STRIKING PLANKS
IN ADOPTED PLATFORM

The platform of the movement adopted this afternoon viva voce by the delegates and mass-meeting asks for a convention of neutral nations in the interests of early peace. Other striking planks in the platform were:

Limitation of armaments and nationalization of their manufacture.

Organized opposition to militarism in America.

Education of youth in ideals of peace.

(Continued on Second Page.)

TWO TURKISH CRUISERS ARE WORSTED IN BATTLE

Breslau and Hamidieh Badly Damaged During Engagement With Russians in Black Sea.

ONE IS FORMER GERMAN VESSEL

It Was Turned Over to Turkey at Beginning of War—Russians Claim to Have Inflicted Considerable Damage to Merchantmen.

PETROGRAD, January 10.—A semi-official announcement made here to-day says that in the naval engagement on the Black Sea between Russian and Turkish warships on January 6, the Turkish cruisers Breslau and Hamidieh were badly damaged.

The statement says: "On January 6, our warships in the Black Sea engaged the enemy's cruisers Breslau and Hamidieh, inflicting on them considerable damage. On January 8, our ships, exploring the Bay of Synope, fired on several Turkish craft loaded with cargo. The same night Russian torpedo boats bombarded two of the enemy's sailing ships carrying flour, and took eighteen men prisoners."

LARGE NUMBER OF TURKISH
BARKS ARE DESTROYED

"On January 9 our ships explored the harbors of Trabzon and Platana, where they discovered nothing to arouse suspicion. In the harbor of Surmeneh our ships destroyed four of the enemy's merchant vessels and eleven sailing ships in the harbor of Rizeh. They bombarded the port of Khopa."

"According to information received here, the Turkish mine layer Pelik-Sheket on January 2 entered the harbor of Stenia. In the Bosphorus, assisted by steam lifeboats, the Pelik-Sheket had been badly damaged along the water line and in the bow, where a cannon had been disabled. The mine layer ran ashore, began to leak badly, and, perhaps, can be considered out of service for a long time."

An official communication issued at Constantinople on January 9 said two Turkish cruisers had been engaged with a Russian squadron of seven units, but that the Turkish warships were not damaged. The Breslau, a cruiser of 4,470 tons, is one of the two German warships turned over to Turkey early in the war. The Hamidieh is of 3,330 tons and carries 502 men.

TWO FIRES AT GREENVILLE

First Causes Estimated Loss of \$40,000 and Second of \$5,000.

GREENVILLE, S. C., January 10.—The Markley Building, formerly a hardware store on Main Street, now vacant, burned this morning, entailing an estimated loss of \$40,000. While the firemen were at work, fire broke out at the Carolina Mills, destroying three stores and as many cottages, entailing a loss of \$5,000.

HITCHCOCK CONFIDENT

Thinks There Will Be Favorable Report on Philippine Bill.

WASHINGTON, January 10.—Chairman Hitchcock, of the Senate Philippines Committee, said to-day he believed the bill to extend a larger measure of self-government to the islands, together with the preamble promising ultimate independence, would be favorably reported at conclusion of the committee's hearings next week.

NEWS FROM FRONT ALMOST REPETITION OF PRECEDING DAYS

Nothing Important in Official Reports From Western Field.

BRITISH EYEWITNESS
DISCUSSES EVENTS

Lays Stress on Important Part Played by Artillery and High Explosives.

BOTH SIDES CLAIM ADVANCES

Turks Make Stand on Frontier, and Are Fiercely Attacking Russians.

Germans Quit Lille; British Take Charge

NEITHER in the east nor the west do the operations of the opposing forces in the European war show marked change so far as the official statements of the French, Germans and Russians disclose.

A late dispatch from Boulogne, however, declares the Germans have evacuated Lille, and that that city virtually is in possession of the British. Dunkirk has been bombarded again by German aeroplanes. Thirty bombs were thrown, but the Havas Agency says the victims were few and the material damage unimportant.

It also is reported that a Zeppelin and three German aeroplanes passed over Furnes, Dunkirk and Calais on Saturday night, apparently headed for Dover, but late advices say no hostile aircraft have been sighted along the English coast.

In Poland and Galicia the struggle seems to be one which embodies very small gains for a vast amount of effort. Nothing has come out of that territory to indicate a decisive result at any point.

The British reply to the American note regarding treatment of American commerce by the British fleet has been published at Washington.

There is no confirmation of the report that there has been a battle off the Brazilian coast between the German cruiser Indefatigable and the German cruiser Von der Tann.

Petrograd reports that the Turkish cruisers Breslau and Hamidieh were considerably damaged in a recent battle in the Black Sea with Russian warships. The Russians have sunk a number of Turkish merchant craft.

LONDON, January 10 (10:06 P. M.).—

The British reply to the American note occupies the attention of the British press and the public in the absence of any important news from the European battlefields. The German and French official reports of the most recent fighting in the western field are almost a repetition of those issued on preceding days.

A British eyewitness, who has been the official historian of events at the front, lays stress on the important part played by the artillery and high explosives in modern warfare and claims superiority for the allies in artillery, which is being used to its full strength.

From the coast to the River Oise, where the country is under water and the rivers are flooded, the big guns have been engaged continuously, but the water and mud prevent the infantry from coming into action. Along the Champagne district as far as Western Argonne, the French are pushing their offensive and organizing the ground gained. These gains have been made at heavy cost.

GERMANS CLAIM GAINS
IN WESTERN ARGONNE

In Western Argonne the Germans also claim to have made gains and to have repulsed a French attempt to carry their trenches in the Woivre and Alsace.

The only news from the east is the German report that the Russian offensive toward Mlawa has failed, their force having been driven back.

In the Caucasus the Turks have made a stand on the frontier near Kara Urgan, and are fiercely attacking the Russian lines.

Seemingly the Russians believe the report that the Turkish cruiser Goeben has been damaged, for their Black Sea fleet, which is superior to the Turkish fleet with the Goeben, has been attacking Turkish ports and destroying their shipping.

There is no development in the near east beyond the report from Sofia that M. Guenadoff, former Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, is leaving for Rome on a semi-official mission, the object of which is to ascertain the at-